



# What is FAIR? An outside view

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28 August 2023

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University of Alabama in Huntsville  
NASA Chief Science Data Office



**This is our second webinar preparing for a workshop**

## **FAIR for NASA Data**

27-29 September 2023

Boulder CO

<https://science.data.nasa.gov/news/events-fair-for-nasa-data/>

Register today!

# Perspectives

- FAIR assessment and FAIR qualification from GO FAIR — Erik Schultes, GO FAIR Foundation
- Improving the FAIRness of data at the US Geological Survey — Viv Hutchison, USGS
- Making biomedical data “born FAIR” — Mark A. Musen, Stanford Center for Biomedical Informatics Research



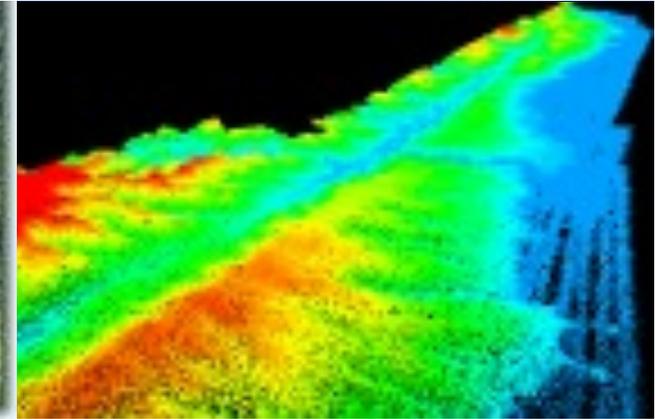
## Start asking questions now

<https://nasa.cnf.io/sessions/y7ef/>



# **USGS State of the Data: Assessing the FAIRness of USGS Data Products**

Viv Hutchison, Leslie Hsu, Tamar Norkin, Lisa Zolly  
CSS Science Analytics and Synthesis  
August 28, 2023



# US Geological Survey

*Science for a Changing World*

The USGS serves the Nation by providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand the Earth;  
minimizing loss of life and property from natural disasters;  
managing water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhancing and protecting our quality of life.



# USGS State of the Data: Overarching Goals

- Establish a methodology using a quantitative analysis of the FAIR characteristics of USGS data and determine a baseline status for the current overall FAIRness of USGS data.
- Identify recommendations for how the USGS can improve its alignment with FAIR.

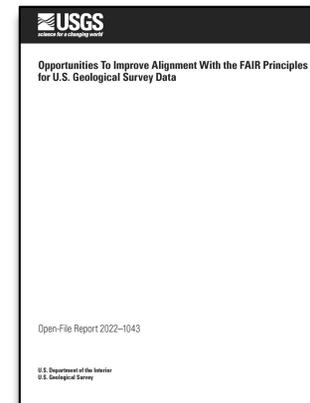
# Background

## USGS FAIR Roadmap Project

Project purpose: to recommend actions that USGS could take to improve alignment with the FAIR Principles.

2019 Workshop

2022 Report



Project supported by the USGS Community for Data Integration (CDI)

# USGS State of the Data: Methods and Status

Engaged community to develop and test a rubric based on FAIR Principles

Performed multiple analyses of rubric using a common dataset to calibrate scoring

Selected ~400 datasets randomly from Science Data Catalog for analysis

Analyzed individual datasets using rubric.

Compiled dataset to identify trends in analysis

Data Release in USGS ScienceBase (includes rubric)

Manuscript submitted to journal

# USGS FAIR Rubric

Hutchison, V.B., Zolly, L.S., Norkin, T., Hsu, L., and Hou, C.-Y., 2023, USGS State of the Data Project: Rubric and Assessment Data: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/P97V4XA4>.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Item No.	Category	Question (Questions are color coded based on the "Level of Importance")	Score (N/A for non-applicable 1 for Yes 0 for No)	Scoring Aids	Related CSDGM Fields
2	1.0	Identifier: Data Release	Is an identifier assigned for the data release and documented in the data release's metadata record?		- The Digital Object Identifier (DOI) is an identifier example.  - Identifiers registered using the USGS DOI tool are considered to be persistent,	First option: <idinfo --> <citation --> <citeinfo --> <onlink and/or <idinfo --> <citeinfo --> <onlink
3	1.1		Is the assigned identifier persistent?		- Identifiers registered using the USGS DOI tool are considered to be unique,	
4	1.2		Is the assigned identifier unique (i.e. has a unique value)?		- In a CSDGM-based metadata, review the fields in cell F2 first to determine if	
5	1.3		Is the assigned identifier viewable on the data release's landing page?		- In a CSDGM-based metadata, review the field in cell F6.	<keywords --> <theme --> <themekt -->
6	2.0	Identifier: Metadata	Is a separate identifier assigned for the data release's metadata record?		- Identifiers registered using the USGS PID tool are considered to be persistent,	The standard format for USGS metadata PID
7	2.1		Is the assigned identifier persistent?		- Identifiers registered using the USGS PID tool are considered to be unique,	
8	2.2		Is the assigned identifier unique (i.e. has a unique value)?		- To score a "1": -- The ORCID information is visible on the landing page (this includes if the	
9	3.0	Identifier: Author/Originator	Are the authors/originators' ORCID identifiers viewable (to humans) on the data release's landing page?		- In a CSDGM-based metadata, review the fields in cell F10.	Sometimes found in the free text supplemental information field:  <idinfo --> <citeinfo --> <onlink
10	3.1	Descriptive	Is the following descriptive information			

**USGS FAIR Rubric**

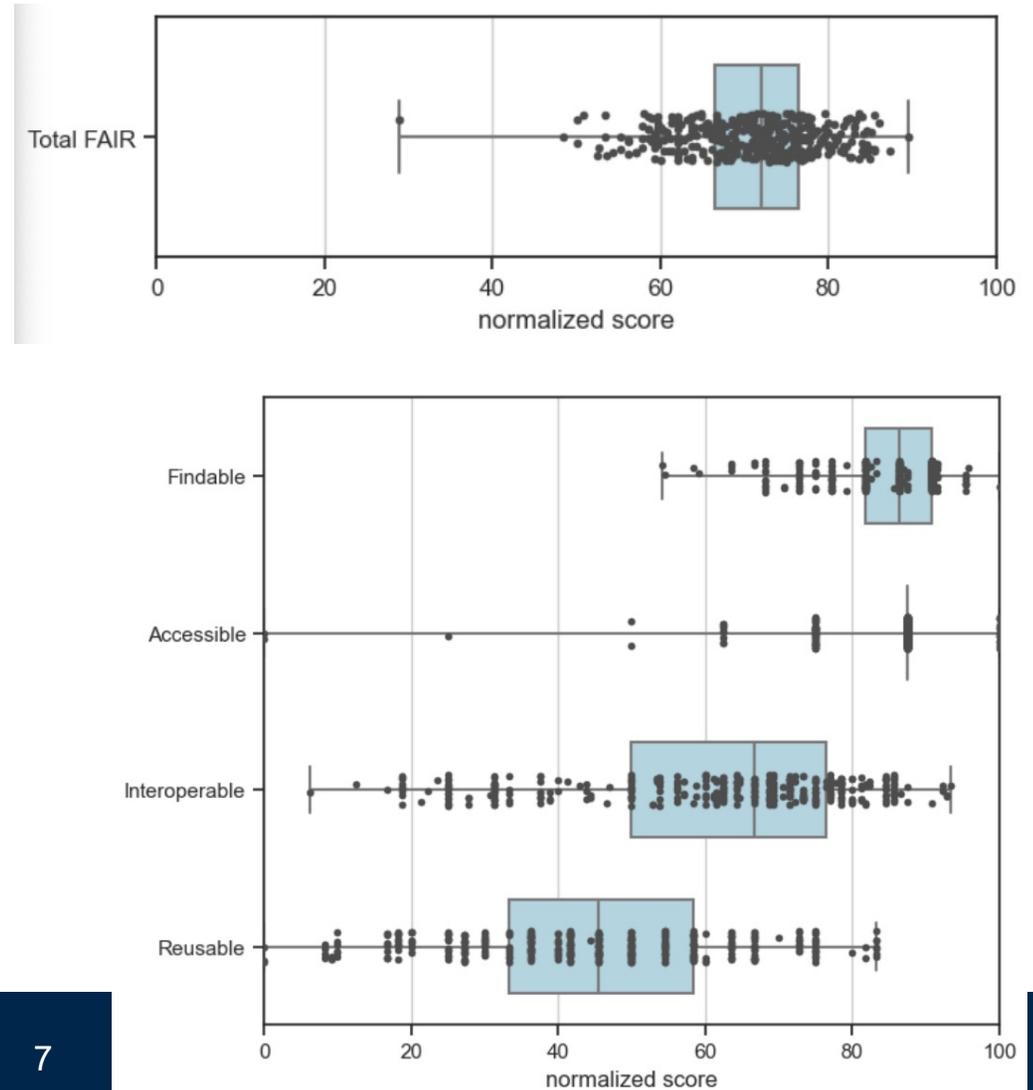
- **62 questions – y/n and n/a**
- **4 categories - F,A,I,R**
- **Essential, Intermediate, Advanced**
- **Questions based on FGDC CSDGM metadata fields**
- **Scoring guides for each question**
- **Scores are entered and totaled thru a formula**
- **Excel spreadsheet format**

# Key Findings

Total FAIR: The overall FAIR scores represent the number of relevant yeses and nos for each of the 62 rubric questions.

F, A, I, R: Scores for all 392 assessments, broken down in the four FAIR principles: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable.

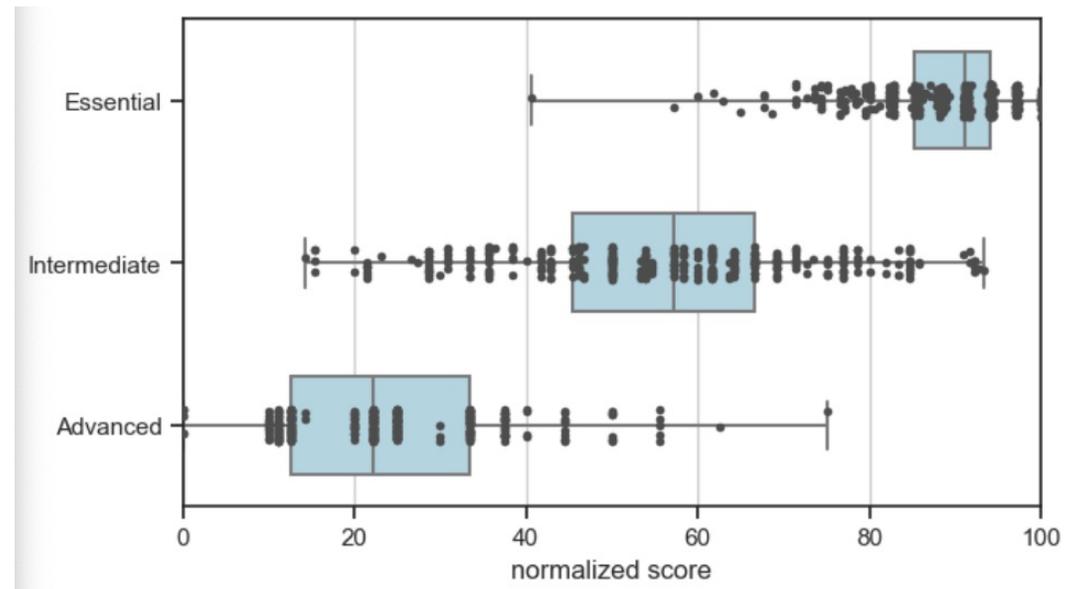
*Each score is normalized to a maximum of 100 and does not take into account questions that are Not Applicable.*



# Key Findings

Each overall FAIR score can be broken down into the three designated levels of importance: Essential, Intermediate and Advanced.

Intermediate and Advanced category questions may not be relevant to all datasets, but their lower scores indicate that there are areas for improvement.

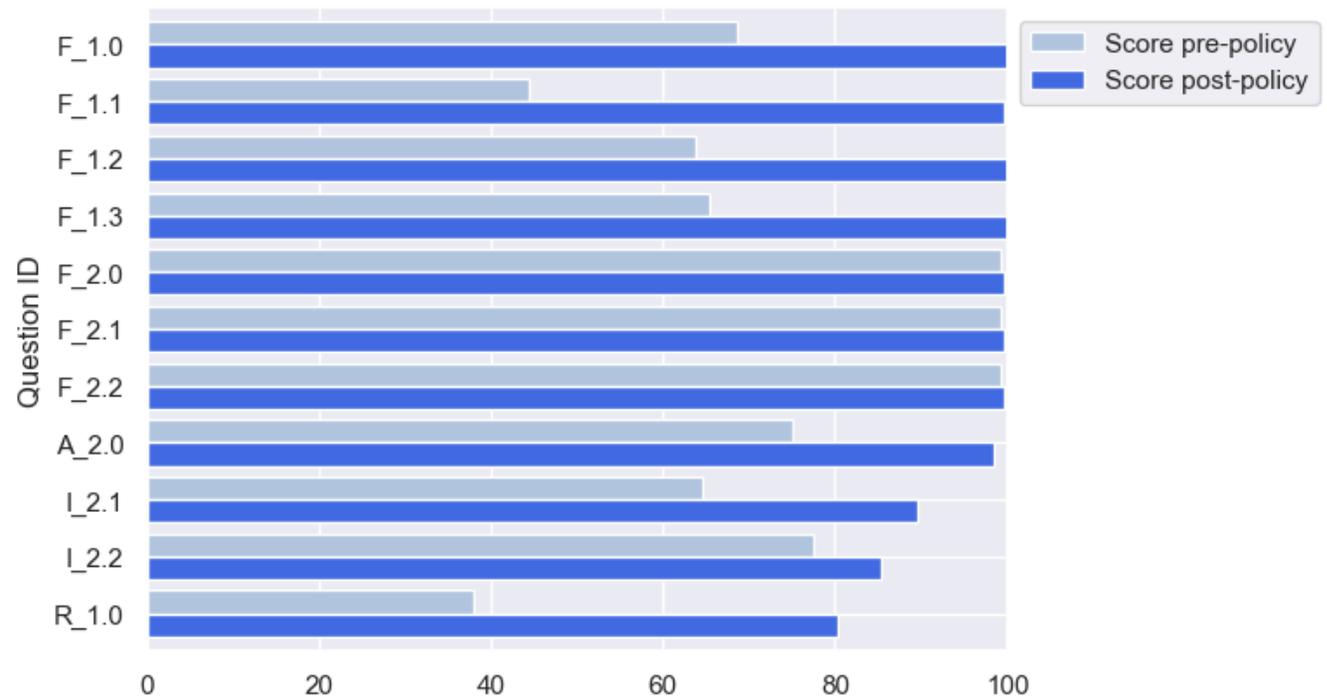


# Key Findings

Pre and Post Policy:

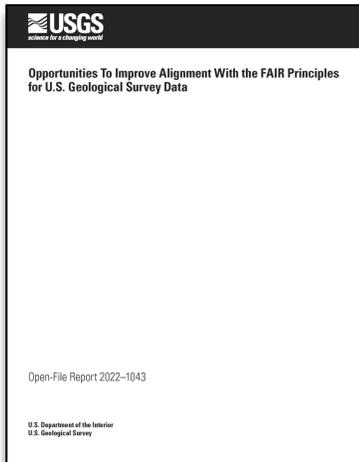
USGS introduced data management policies in 2016

11 questions in rubric address elements affected by the USGS data policy implementation, showing an increase in “Yes responses” for all questions.



# Recommendations

Findings and recommendations resulting from the State of the Data analysis, align nicely with the recommendations in the CDI FAIR roadmap publication



	Recommendation	Category	FAIR Road map	FAIR element improved	Level of Effort	ROI
R1	Convene USGS repository managers to develop core shared standards for presentation of/access to data and metadata via landing pages	Data Repositories	5-1, 5-12	F,A	M	M
R2	Move USGS repositories towards standard processes, workflows, and services for intake of new data releases	Data Repositories	5-5	F,A	M	H
P1	Applying FAIR guidelines, re-evaluate minimum characteristics for USGS and non-USGS repositories to be considered for inclusion in the acceptable repositories list (presentation requirements, standardized processes for ingest)	Policy	5-1	F,A	M	M
P2	Convene a working group with participation from FSPAC and OPA to clarify requirements for and implementation of disclaimers, licenses, and constraints on use	Policy	2-1, 2-14	R	M	M
P3	Institute peer review and enforcement of comprehensive data management plans at project outset	Policy	7-2	A,R	M	H
P4	Address access constraints resulting from poorly defined data sharing agreements	Policy	2-4	A	H	M
C1	Convene working group to improve data quality documentation practices in metadata	Community & Training	-	R	H	H
C2	Convene working groups to define bureau-level and community data dictionaries to support linked open data	Community & Training	3-6	I	H	H
C3	Convene USGS repo managers to develop consistent practices for documenting version history and linking to versions of data	Community & Training	5-1, 7-3	F,A	M	M

# Next Phases

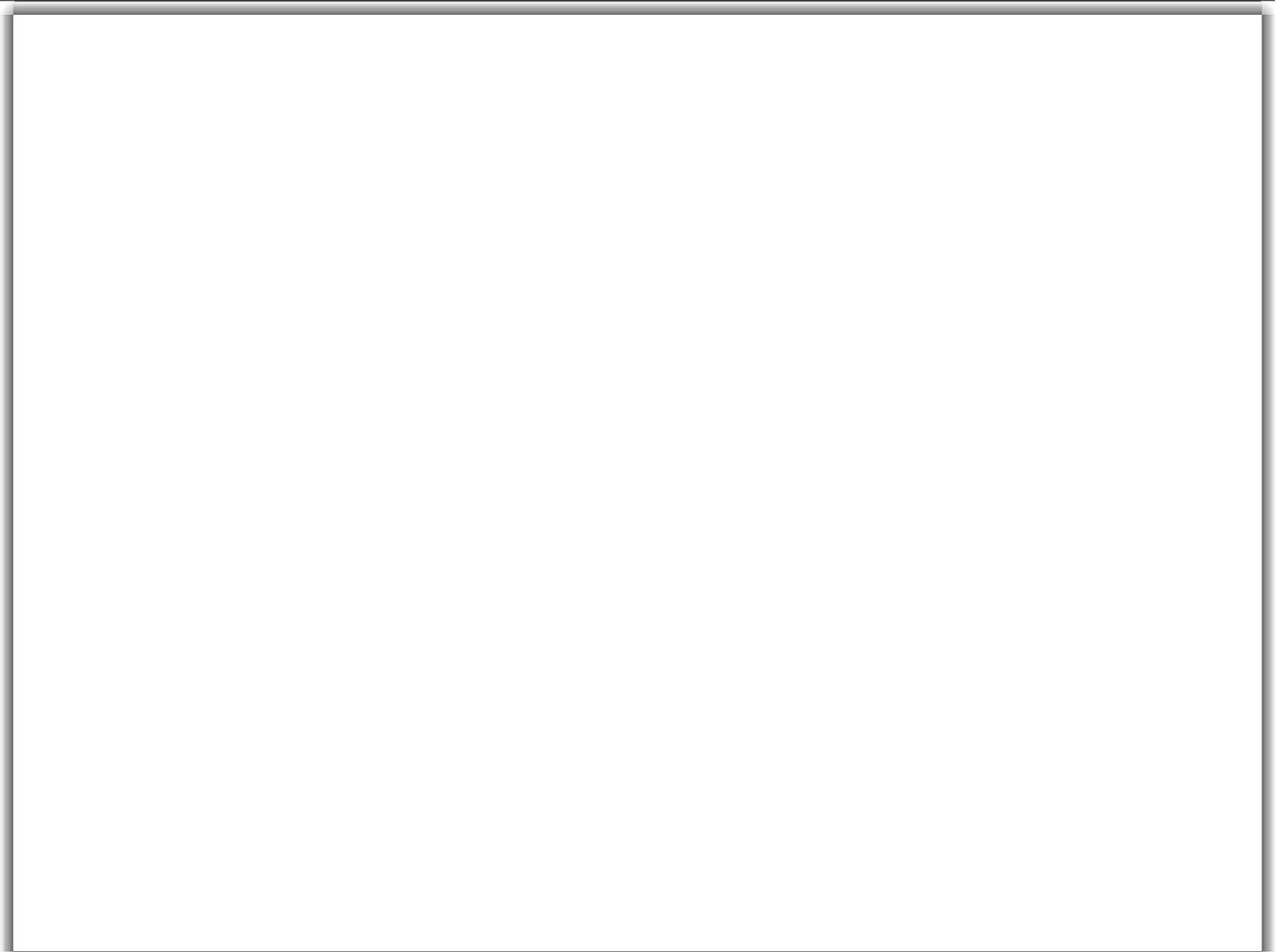
- Develop a method for automated analysis of datasets for FAIRness
- Test the use of Artificial Intelligence to conduct the next analysis and compare to baseline
- Ensure training, and action on other recommendations, occurs based on results
- Use the State of the Data report to continue to increase community engagement in expanding a USGS culture of FAIR

# Thank you!

Viv Hutchison

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# Making Biomedical Data “Born FAIR”

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Stanford University  
musen@stanford.edu



# The FAIR Guiding Principles

F1: (Meta) data are assigned globally unique and persistent identifiers

F2: Data are described with rich metadata

F3: Metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data they describe

F4: (Meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource

A1: (Meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardised communication protocol

A1.1: The protocol is open, free and universally implementable

A1.2: The protocol allows for an authentication and authorisation where necessary

A2: Metadata should be accessible even when the data is no longer available

I1: (Meta)data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation

I2: (Meta)data use vocabularies that follow the FAIR principles

I3: (Meta)data include qualified references to other (meta)data

R1: (Meta)data are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes

R1.1: (Meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license

R1.2: (Meta)data are associated with detailed provenance

R1.3: (Meta)data meet domain-relevant community standards

# Most FAIR principles are about *metadata*

F1: (Meta) data are assigned globally unique and persistent identifiers

F2: Data are described with rich metadata

F3: Metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data they describe

F4: (Meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource

A1: (Meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardised communication protocol

A1.1: The protocol is open, free and universally implementable

A1.2: The protocol allows for an authentication and authorisation where necessary

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I2: (Meta)data use vocabularies that follow the FAIR principles

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R1: (Meta)data are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes

R1.1: (Meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license

R1.2: (Meta)data are associated with detailed provenance

R1.3: (Meta)data meet domain-relevant community standards

## Metadata in public repositories are a mess!

- Investigators view their work as publishing papers, not leaving a legacy of reusable data
- Sponsors may require data sharing, but they do not encourage the use of grant funds to pay for it
- Creating the metadata to describe data sets is unbearably hard

## Human sample from Homo sapiens

Identifiers BioSample: SAMN15811762; Sample name: CST3-M15545

Organism [Homo sapiens](#) (human)  
cellular organisms; Eukaryota; Opisthokonta; Metazoa; Eumetazoa; Bilateria; Deuterostomia; Chordata; Craniata; Vertebrata; Gnathostomata; Teleostomi; Euteleostomi; Sarcopterygii; Dipnotetrapodomorpha; Tetrapoda; Amniota; Mammalia; Theria; Eutheria; Boreoeutheria; Euarchontoglires; Primates; Haplorrhini; Simiiformes; Catarrhini; Hominoidea; Hominidae; Homininae; Homo

Package [Human; version 1.0](#)

<b>disease name</b>	1.脑淀粉样血管病
<b>Hereditary way</b>	1.AD
...	...
<b>altitude</b>	C
<b>Chr</b>	chr20
<b>Start</b>	23618395
<b>End</b>	23618395
...	...
<b>GO_cellular_component</b>	extracellular region;basement membrane;extracellular space;lysosome;multi cytoplasm;extracellular exosome;tertiary granule lumen;ficolin-1-rich granule
<b>GO_molecular_function</b>	amyloid-beta binding;protease binding;endopeptidase inhibitor activity;cystei

Full metadata record available at: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/biosample/15811762>

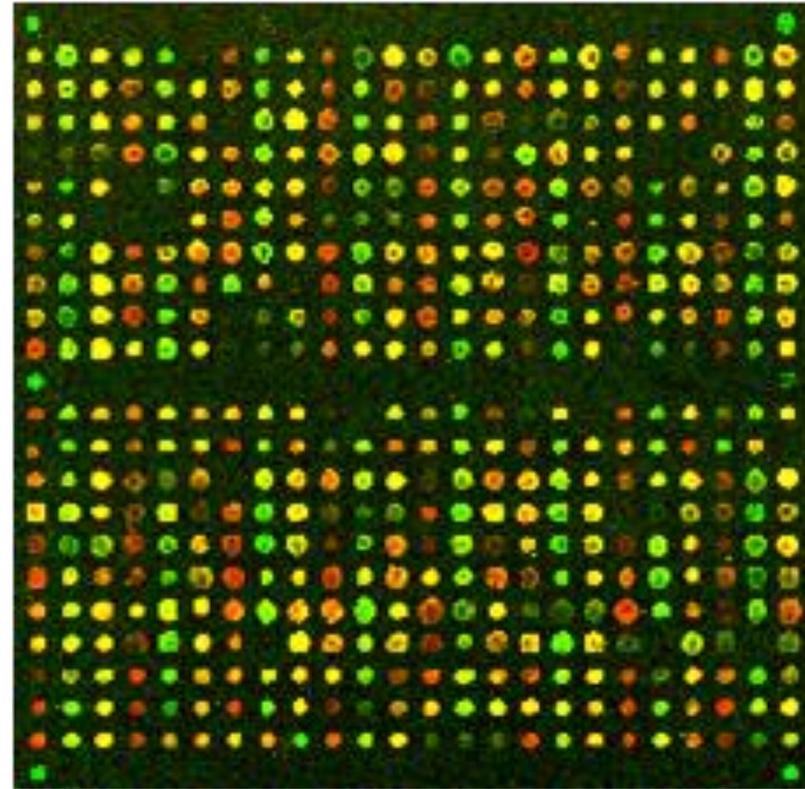
# Metadata need to adhere to standards!

<i>age</i>	<i>age [y]</i>
<i>Age</i>	<i>age [year]</i>
<i>AGE</i>	<i>age [years]</i>
<i>`Age</i>	<i>age in years</i>
<i>age (after birth)</i>	<i>age of patient</i>
<i>age (in years)</i>	<i>Age of patient</i>
<i>age (y)</i>	<i>age of subjects</i>
<i>age (year)</i>	<i>age(years)</i>
<i>age (years)</i>	<i>Age(years)</i>
<i>Age (years)</i>	<i>Age(yrs.)</i>
<i>Age (Years)</i>	<i>Age, year</i>
<i>age (yr)</i>	<i>age, years</i>
<i>age (yr-old)</i>	<i>age, yrs</i>
<i>age (yrs)</i>	<i>age.year</i>
<i>Age (yrs)</i>	<i>age_years</i>

# The microarray community took the lead in standardizing metadata **reporting guidelines**

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- What was the substrate of the experiment?
- What array platform was used?
- What were the experimental conditions?



DNA Microarray

## Minimum Information About a Microarray Experiment - MIAME

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**MIAME** describes the **Minimum Information About a Microarray Experiment** that is needed to enable the interpretation of the results of the experiment unambiguously and potentially to reproduce the experiment. [[Brazma et al., Nature Genetics](#)]

The six most critical elements contributing towards MIAME are:

1. The raw data for each hybridisation (e.g., [CEL](#) or [GPR](#) files)
2. The final processed (normalised) data for the set of hybridisations in the experiment (study) (e.g., the gene expression data matrix used to draw the conclusions from the study)
3. The essential sample annotation including experimental factors and their values (e.g., compound and dose in a dose response experiment)
4. The experimental design including sample data relationships (e.g., which raw data file relates to which sample, which hybridisations are technical, which are biological replicates)
5. Sufficient annotation of the array (e.g., gene identifiers, genomic coordinates, probe oligonucleotide sequences or reference commercial array catalog number)
6. The essential laboratory and data processing protocols (e.g., what normalisation method has been used to obtain the final processed data)

For more details, see [MIAME 2.0](#).

# But it didn't stop with MIAME!

- Minimal Information About T Cell Assays (MIATA)
- Minimal Information Required in the Annotation of biochemical Models (MIRIAM)
- MINimal MEtagemome Sequence analysis Standard (MINIMESS)
- Minimal Information Specification For In Situ Hybridization and Immunohistochemistry Experiments (MISFISHIE)

These are exactly the kinds of community standards  
that we need to structure metadata!

If we want to have FAIR data, we need good metadata. Good metadata need:

- **Ontologies** to provide controlled terms
- **Reporting guidelines**—like MIAME—to provide a standardized structure for the metadata components
- **Technology** to make it easy to author good metadata in the first place
- **Procedures** to create community-based standards in the first place

# Our approach in CEDAR

- Encode standard, community-endorsed *reporting guidelines* as **templates** that offer fill-in-the-blank authoring opportunities
- Use selections from *ontologies* whenever possible to provide **standardized values** for the template fields





## Workspace

Shared with Me

FILTER RESET

TYPE



	Title	Created	Modified
	GEO	9/5/17 9:48 AM	9/5/17 10:24 AM
	BioCADDIE	9/5/17 9:48 AM	9/5/17 10:24 AM
	BioSample Human	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 11:28 AM
	Optional Attribute	9/5/17 10:38 AM	9/5/17 10:38 AM
	ImmPort Investigation	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 10:21 AM
	LINCS Cell Line	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 9:49 AM
	LINCS Antibody	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 9:49 AM
	ImmPort Study	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 9:49 AM





All / Users / Mark A. Musen



## Workspace

Shared with Me

FILTER RESET

TYPE



	Title	Created	Modified
	GEO	9/5/17 9:48 AM	9/5/17 10:24 AM
	BioCADDIE	9/5/17 9:48 AM	9/5/17 10:24 AM
	BioSample Human	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 11:28 AM
	Optional Attribute	9/5/17 10:38 AM	9/5/17 10:38 AM
	ImmPort Investigation	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 10:21 AM
	LINCS Cell Line	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 9:49 AM
	LINCS Antibody	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 9:49 AM
	ImmPort Study	9/5/17 9:49 AM	9/5/17 9:49 AM

Open

Populate

Share...

Copy to...

Move to...

Rename...

Delete



▼ BioSample Human

- \* Sample Name
- \* Organism
- \* Tissue
- \* Sex
- \* Isolate
- \* Age
- \* Biomaterial Provider
- ▼ **Attribute**
  - Name
  - Value

CANCEL

VALIDATE

SAVE

▼ BioSample Human

\* Sample Name 056

\* Organism Homo sapiens

\* Tissue

- blood (UBERON) (50%)
- liver (UBERON) (9%)
- bone marrow (UBERON) 6%)
- breast (UBERON) (6%)
- lymph node (UBERON) (6%)
- lung (UBERON) (6%)
- colon (UBERON) (6%)

\* Sex

\* Isolate

\* Age

\* Biomaterial Provider

▼ Attribute

Name

Value

▼ BioSample Human

* Sample Name	056
* Organism	Homo sapiens
* Tissue	lung
* Sex	Male
* Isolate	N/A
* Age	74
* Biomaterial Provider	Life Technologies



▼ Attribute

Name	disease
Value	



dropdown menu with a question mark icon

- lung cancer (DOID) (61%)
- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (DOID) (31%)
- lung squamous cell carcinoma (DOID) (5%)
- idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (DOID) (4%)
- lung adenocarcinoma (DOID) (4%)
- adenocarcinoma (DOID) (3%)
- carcinoma (DOID) (2%)

▼ BioSample Human

* Sample Name	056
* Organism	Homo sapiens
* Tissue	brain
* Sex	Male
* Isolate	N/A
* Age	74
* Biomaterial Provider	Life Technologies



▼ Attribute

Name	disease
Value	



?

- Parkinson's disease (DOID) (39%)
- central nervous system lymphoma (DOID) (27%)
- autistic disorder (DOID) (22%)
- melanoma (DOID) (5%)
- Edwards syndrome (DOID) (2%)
- schizophrenia (DOID) (1%)



**NIH**  
**HEAL**  
**INITIATIVE**

**RAD**X DATA  
HUB

**M****C****B****K**  
Mobilizing Computable Biomedical Knowledge



# HuBMAP Metadata Spreadsheet Validator





Sample ID\*

Visium\_9OLC\_I4\_S2

Type\*

Section

Source Storage Time Value\*

208

Source Storage Time Unit\*

day

Preparation Medium\*

- CMC
- MACS Tissue Storage Solution
- RNALater
- Methanol
- Non-Aldehyde Based Without Acetic Acid (NAA)
- Non-Aldehyde With Acetic Acid (ACA)
- PAXgene Tissue System

Processing Time Unit

minute

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	I
1	sample_ID	source_storage_ti	source_storage_ti	preparation_medium	preparation_cond	processing_tim	processing_tim	storage_meth
2	Visium_90LC_A4_S1	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	4	minute	OCT embec
3	Visium_90LC_A4_S2	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	4	minute	OCT embec
4	Visium_90LC_I4_S1	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	4	minute	OCT embec
5	Visium_90LC_I4_S2	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	4	minute	OCT embec
6		86 days	days	Formalin		10 minutes	minutes	Paraffin em
7		86 days	days	Formalin		10 minutes	minutes	Paraffin em
8		86 days	days	Formalin		10 minutes	minutes	Paraffin em
9		86 days	days	Formalin		10 minutes	minutes	Paraffin em
10		86 days	days	Formalin		10 minutes	minutes	Paraffin em
11	Visium_40AZ_Q9_S1	100	d	Agar-agar		5	min	OCT embec
12	Visium_40AZ_Q9_S2	100	d	Agar-agar		5	min	OCT embec
13	Visium_40AZ_Q9_S3	100	d	Agar-agar		5	min	OCT embec
14	Visium_40AZ_Q9_S4	100	d	Agar-agar		5	min	OCT embec
15	Visium_90LC_W3_S1	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	3	minute	Methanol (
16	Visium_90LC_W3_S2	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	3	minute	Methanol (
17	Visium_90LC_W3_S3	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	3	minute	Methanol (
18	Visium_90LC_W3_S4	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	3	minute	Methanol (
19	Visium_90LC_W3_S5	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	4	minute	Unknown
20	Visium_90LC_W3_S6	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	4	minute	Unknown
21	Visium_90LC_W3_S7	208	day	Methanol (100%)	-20 celsius	4	minute	Unknown

# HuBMAP Metadata Spreadsheet Validator



Upload and submit your spreadsheet file to validate the metadata records

Drag & Drop your spreadsheet file or [Browse](#)

START VALIDATING

# Validation Result

20 metadata records were found in the spreadsheet.

Spreadsheet is uploaded from: /Users/johardi/Documents/Experiment/2022-08-31\_SampleData.xlsx

CHANGE

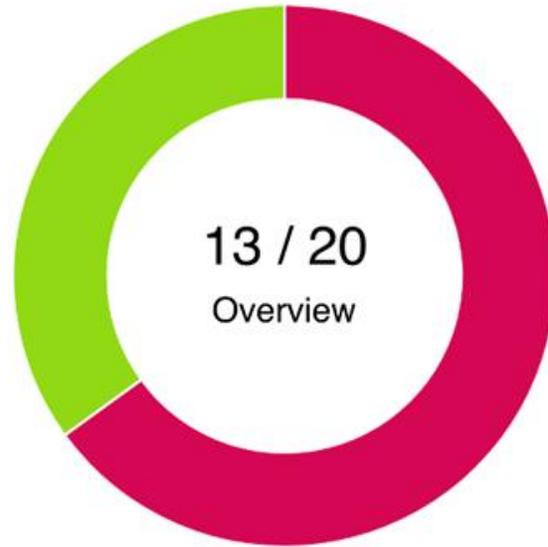
Spreadsheet is validated against CEDAR template: [Sample Section Specification v2.2](#)

Overview

Repair Missing Values

Repair Invalid Value Types

GENERATE NEW SPREADSHEET



Invalid metadata Valid metadata

## Validation Summary

The validity of a metadata record is measured by two metrics: *completeness* and *adherence*.

**Completeness** measures the presence of all required values in the metadata record defined by the metadata specification.

**Adherence** measures the conformance of the stated value in the metadata field to the data type defined by the metadata specification.

A metadata record is called invalid when errors were found in its value using these two metrics.

REPAIR MISSING VALUES

REPAIR INVALID VALUE TYPES

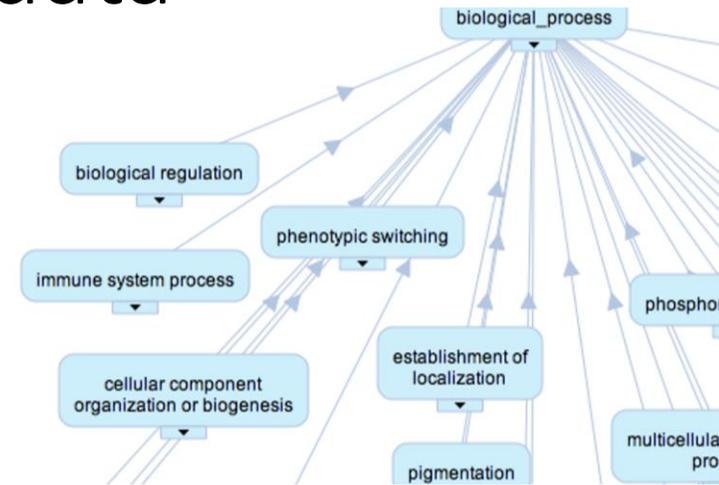
## Analysis: Missing Values

Evaluating 20 metadata records for missing values in the spreadsheet.

# There are two kinds of community standards that guide the authoring of scientific metadata

1. **Ontologies:** Collections of standard terms for salient entities in a discipline (e.g., Gene Ontology, International Classification of Diseases)

2. **Reporting Guidelines:** Enumerations of those aspects of a class of experiment that useful metadata need to mention (e.g., Minimum Information About a Microarray Experiment; MIAME)



▼ BioSample Human

* Sample Name	056
* Organism	Homo sapiens
* Tissue	skin of body
* Sex	Male
* Isolate	N/A
* Age	74
* Biomaterial Provider	Life Technologies
▼ Attribute (1)	

# Online data will never be FAIR

- Until we standardize metadata structure using common **templates** to capture reporting guidelines
- Until we can fill in those templates with **controlled terms** whenever possible
- Until we create **technology** that will make it easy for investigators to annotate their datasets in standardized, searchable ways
- Until we recognize the importance of creating FAIR data from the very beginning

